

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 8, 2012

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**JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION SOLICITS APPLICATIONS FOR
MONTANA ASSOCIATE WATER COURT JUDGESHIP**

Chief Justice Mike McGrath has notified the Judicial Nomination Commission that the newly created Associate Water Court Judge commences on July 1, 2012. As required by statute, the Judicial Nomination Commission will review applications for the new judgeship. The Montana Water Court is located in Bozeman. After appointment by the Chief Justice, the newly appointed judge will serve for a four-year term. The salary for the position is \$113,928 per year.

The Commission is accepting applications from any lawyer in good standing who has the qualifications set forth by law for holding the position of Montana Associate Water Court Judge. Applications are available online at: **courts.mt.gov** or by contacting Beth McLaughlin, at bmclaughlin@mt.gov or 406-841-2966. Applications must be submitted electronically as well as in hard copy. The deadline for submitting applications is **5:00 p.m., Friday, March 9, 2012**. The Commission will announce the names of the candidates thereafter.

The public is encouraged to contact Commission members regarding the applicants during the public comment period, which will begin Monday, March 12, 2012, and close Wednesday, April 11, 2012. The Commission will forward the names of three to five nominees to Chief Justice McGrath for appointment after

reviewing the applications, receiving public comment, and interviewing the applicants if necessary.

The Judicial Nomination Commission has seven members: District Judge Richard Simonton of Glendive; Shirley Ball of Nashua; Mona Charles of Kalispell; Monica Paoli of Missoula; Martha Sheehy of Billings; Ryan Rusche of Columbia Falls; and Paul Tuss of Havre.